

(h) Each member of a committee shall provide biennially to the chief medical officer of the Dallas County Hospital District a signed, verified statement indicating that the committee member:

(1) is licensed by the Texas Medical Board;

(2) will exercise independent medical judgment in all committee matters, including matters relating to credentialing, quality assurance, utilization review, peer review, medical decision-making, and due process;

(3) will exercise the committee member's best efforts to ensure compliance with the Dallas County Hospital District's policies that are adopted or established by the committee; and

(4) will report immediately to the Texas Medical Board any action or event that the committee member reasonably and in good faith believes constitutes a compromise of the independent medical judgment of a physician in caring for a patient.

(i) The committee shall adopt rules requiring the disclosure of financial conflicts of interest by a committee member.

(j) For all matters relating to the practice of medicine, each physician employed by the board shall ultimately report to the chief medical officer of the Dallas County Hospital District.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

Passed the Senate on April 30, 2009: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House on May 27, 2009: Yeas 147, Nays 1, one present not voting.

Approved June 19, 2009.

Effective June 19, 2009.

CHAPTER 824

S.B. No. 1715

AN ACT

relating to the requirements for a smoke detector in multifamily and other residential units.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. This bill is enacted to honor the memory of Sephra Burks.

SECTION 2. Section 92.254, Property Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) A smoke detector must be:

(1) designed to detect both the visible and invisible products of combustion;

(2) designed with an alarm audible to a person in the bedrooms it serves;

(3) powered by battery, alternating current, or other power source as required by local ordinance;

(4) tested and listed for use as a smoke detector by Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., Factory Mutual Research Corporation, or United States Testing Company, Inc.; and

(5) in good working order.

(a-1) If requested by a tenant as an accommodation for a person with a hearing-impairment disability or as required by law as a reasonable accommodation for a person with a hearing-impairment disability, a smoke detector must, in addition to complying with Subsection (a), be capable of alerting a hearing-impaired person in the bedrooms it serves.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect January 1, 2010.

Passed the Senate on April 17, 2009: Yeas 28, Nays 0; the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 28, 2009: Yeas 31, Nays 0; passed the House, with amendment, on May 20, 2009: Yeas 114, Nays 22, one present not voting.

Approved June 19, 2009.

Effective January 1, 2010.

CHAPTER 825

S.B. No. 1723

AN ACT

relating to an informational manual for voluntary caregivers who provide temporary care for children who are the subject of an investigation by the Department of Family and Protective Services.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 261.3071, Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 261.3071. INFORMATIONAL MANUALS. (a) In this section:

(1) “*Designated caregiver*” and[,], “*relative caregiver*” [~~and “designated caregiver”~~] have the meanings assigned those terms by Section 264.751.

(2) “*Voluntary caregiver*” means a person who voluntarily agrees to provide temporary care for a child:

(A) *who is the subject of an investigation by the department or whose parent, managing conservator, possessory conservator, guardian, caretaker, or custodian is receiving family-based safety services from the department;*

(B) *who is not in the conservatorship of the department; and*

(C) *who is placed in the care of the person by the parent or other person having legal custody of the child.*

(b) The department shall develop and publish informational manuals that provide information for:

(1) a parent or other person having custody of a child who is the subject of an investigation under this chapter; [~~and~~]

(2) a person who is selected by the department to be the child’s relative or designated caregiver; *and*

(3) *a voluntary caregiver.*

(c) Information provided in the manuals must be in both English and Spanish and must include, as appropriate:

(1) useful indexes of information such as telephone numbers;

(2) the information required to be provided under Section 261.307(a)(1);

(3) information describing the rights and duties of a relative or designated caregiver; [~~and~~]

(4) information regarding the relative and other designated caregiver program under Subchapter I, Chapter 264; *and*

(5) *information regarding the role of a voluntary caregiver, including information on how to obtain any documentation necessary to provide for a child’s needs.*

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

Passed the Senate on May 8, 2009: Yeas 30, Nays 0; passed the House on May 27, 2009: Yeas 148, Nays 0, one present not voting.